

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ITO et al. Examiner: Unknown

Filed: Filed herewith Docket No.: 10873.1422US01

Title: OPTICAL HEAD DEVICE AND OPTICAL INFORMATION  
REPRODUCING DEVICE

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:**  
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 322888144 US  
Date of Deposit: March 17, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Teresa Anderson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003. A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

Japanese reference 11-242824 corresponds with U.S. 6,442,125.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

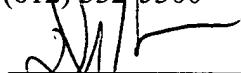
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

By:

  
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

Dated: March 17, 2004

DPM/jh



<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.1422US01	Application Number:
	Applicant: ITO et al.	
	Filing Date: Filed herewith	Group Art Unit:

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

**EXAMINER** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE CONSIDERED** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.